

AMENDMENT

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The following listing supplants all prior listings of the claims.

1. (Original) A miter saw comprising:
 - a. a base;
 - b. an arm assembly having a fixed end pivotally attached to the base, a free distal end forming a handle spaced outwardly therefrom and a central region therebetween provided with a rotary spindle supporting a cutting disc;
 - c. wherein the handle has a transverse oriented elongate grip portion sized for a user's fingers to wrap thereabout and a palm pad portion extending outwardly from the grip portion for a distance sufficient to underlie the heel portion of the palm of the user's hand so that as the user lowers the handle towards the base to cause the cutting disc to engage a work piece, the palm pad portion transmits downward force from the user's hand to the handle thereby minimizing torque on the user's wrist.
2. (Original) The miter saw of claim 1 wherein the elongate grip portion further comprises a lock-out switch extending transversely to the left of the grip portion adjacent the user's thumb and a trigger switch mounted on the grip portion extending inwardly from the grip portion adjacent a user's index finger.
3. (Original) The miter saw of claim 1 wherein the palm pad portion further comprises a soft elastomeric pad overlying a relatively rigid structural pad member.
4. (Original) The miter saw of claim 1 wherein the arm extends along an arm axis which is generally perpendicular to the rotary spindle when the arm is viewed in plan view in a lowered position.
5. (Original) The miter saw of claim 4 wherein the arm includes a rotatable joint enabling the orientation of the handle to be varied about the arm axis and fixed at a position selected by a user.

6. (Original) The miter saw of claim 5 wherein the rotatable joint has sufficient travel to enable the elongate grip portion to be moved between a horizontal position and a position rotated at least 30° counter-clockwise about the arm axis therefrom measured when the arm is lowered and the rotary spindle is generally horizontal.
7. (Original) The miter saw of claim 4 wherein the handle has a fore and aft length measured along the arm axis of between 3" and 4.5".
8. (Original) The miter saw of claim 7 wherein the handle has a maximum vertical thickness where the handle is in a lowered horizontal orientation of between 1.5" and 2.5".
9. (Original) The miter saw of claim 8 wherein the elongate grip portion further comprises a lock-out switch extending transversely to the left of the grip portion adjacent the user's thumb and a trigger switch mounted on the grip portion extending inwardly from the grip portion adjacent a user's index finger.
10. (Original) A miter saw comprising:
 - a. a base; and
 - b. an arm assembly having a fixed end pivotally attached to the base, a free distal end forming a handle spaced outwardly therefrom and a central region therebetween provided with a rotary spindle supporting a cutting disc, said handle including a grip portion, connected to said arm central region via a rotatable joint to permit rotation of said handle about a common pivot axis; said rotatable joint having a locking mechanism cooperating with the arm central region for permitting selective handle rotation about said pivot axis and for maintaining a selected orientation of said handle portion relative to said central region during a cutting operation of the miter saw.
11. (Original) The miter saw of claim 10 wherein the handle is rotatably adjustable between at least 0° and 30° from horizontal measured when the arm is lowered and the rotary spindle is horizontal.
12. - 20. (Canceled)